



ATTACHMENT A

Remarks

In response to the Office Action mailed on December 27, 2006, withdrawal of the rejections of the claims for the reasons discussed below is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. 112

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as having insufficient antecedent basis for the limitation “the PXE boot extension server” in the third line of claim 1.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite “a PXE boot extension server” in order to overcome this rejection. The Examiner is thanked for pointing this error.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1 – 15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant’s Admitted Prior Art [AAPA] in view of Lee et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0018751). This rejection is respectfully traversed, although claim 1 and claim 6 have been amended to each more clearly distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art.

In manufacturing a computer system, it is desired that a computer be able to boot over a network using PXE to load boot extensions so that the computer can be configured and to perform tasks such as loading an operating system onto the hard disk via a network condition. Doing this in an environment wherein multiple types of computer systems are being built and configured traditionally requires a user to select the proper PXE boot extension from a PXE boot extension server while booting a new system to ensure that the PXE boot extension specific to the desired configuration for that computer is loaded from the PXE boot extension server.

Claim 1, as currently amended, recites:

1. A method of loading a PXE boot extension in a computer, comprising:
storing a BIOS identifier corresponding to a desired PXE boot extension as a part of a BIOS code of said computer;

providing the BIOS identifier to a PXE boot extension server during performance of initial boot functions of said computer;
determining in the PXE boot extension server from the BIOS identifier which of a plurality of PXE boot extensions to provide to the computer; and
providing from the PXE boot extension server to the computer the determined PXE boot extension.

It is alleged in the Office Action that AAPA discloses “a method of booting a computer over a network using PXE boot extensions, loaded from a PXE boot extension server, manually selected by a user after searching through a complete list of extensions based on the desired configuration”. It is further alleged in the Office Action that Lee discloses “a method for downloading from a server wherein Lee includes sending an identifier to a server and thereafter, in response to the identifier being received, receiving specific content corresponding to the identifier from the server (paragraph [0012]).”

It is not disputed that AAPA discloses booting a computer over a network using PXE boot extensions manually loaded from a PXE boot extension server. However, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of AAPA and Lee would not result in the method of claim 1 because neither reference teaches or suggests: 1) storing a BIOS identifier corresponding to a desired PXE boot extension as a part of a BIOS code of a computer; 2) providing the BIOS identifier to a PXE boot extension server during execution of the BIOS code at a startup of the computer; or 3) determining in the PXE boot extension server, based on the BIOS identifier, which of a plurality of PXE boot extensions to provide to the computer.

With respect to the AAPA, it is noted that the AAPA fails to teach or suggest any of the three limitations described above. Thus, it is presumed that paragraph [0012] of the Lee reference was cited as teaching the missing limitations.

For convenience, paragraph [0012] is reproduced below:

[0012] To achieve the above and other objects, a contents downloading system, includes: a server device providing contents; a media device playing/recording the contents or receiving and transmitting data; and a user terminal device connected to the media device and transmitting a device identifier received from the media device to the server device to download a content corresponding to the device identifier

of the media device from the server device, and transmitting the content to the media device.

It is respectfully submitted that however paragraph [0012] is read, it does not contain a teaching or a suggestion of the steps of claim 1 described above. More specifically, assuming that the "media device" is being read as the "computer," that the "device identifier" is being read as the "BIOS identifier," and that the "server device" is being read as the "PXE boot extension server" of the claim, there is no indication in paragraph [0012] that the "device identifier" is stored as a part of a BIOS code of the "media device," or that the "device identifier" is provided to the "server device" during performance of initial boot functions of the "media device." In fact, there is no indication that the "media device" even undergoes an initial boot function. Further, there is no indication that the "device identifier" is a part of any code, or when it is provided to the server device. Thus, as stated above, there is no teaching or suggestion of the steps of: 1) storing a BIOS identifier corresponding to a desired PXE boot extension as a part of a BIOS code of a computer; 2) providing the BIOS identifier to a PXE boot extension server during performance of initial boot functions of the computer; or 3) determining, in the PXE boot extension server, based on the BIOS identifier, which of a plurality of PXE boot extensions to provide to the computer, all as recited in claim 1.

Claims 2 – 5 depend from claim 1, and are allowable for at least the reasons provided in support of the allowability of claim 1. Further, at least claim 2, claim 4 and claim 5 are believed to be separately patentable over the cited prior art.

Claim 2 recites "wherein the determined PXE boot extension comprises a program operable to install an operating system on the computer." It is respectfully that neither the AAPA nor the Lee reference teach or suggest a PXE boot extension comprising a program operable to install an operating system on a computer.

Claim 4 recites "wherein the BIOS identifier comprises a configurable CMOS setting" and claim 5 recites "wherein the BIOS identifier comprises a product code." Claim 4 and claim 5 are rejected as "inherent to one of ordinary skill in the art." To the extent that these rejections are an "Official Notice" of facts not in the record, this finding is traversed because a "BIOS identifier corresponding to a desired PXE boot extension, stored as a part of the BIOS code of a computer" is believed to be novel. Thus, a BIOS identifier comprising a configurable CMOS setting, and a BIOS identifier comprising a

product code are not “inherent to one of ordinary skill in the art.” If the Examiner disagrees and intends to still pursue these rejections, documentary evidence in support of the rejections of claims 4 and 5 is respectfully requested.

Claims 6 – 10 have been rejected on the same basis as set forth with respect to claims 1 – 5.

Claim 6 has been amended to recite: 1) a BIOS identifier that identifies a desired PXE boot extension, said BIOS identifier being a part of a BIOS code of said computerized system; and 2) a BIOS program code element operable to pass the BIOS identifier to a PXE boot extension server during execution of said BIOS code at a startup of said computer. Thus, claim 6 is allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to the BIOS identifier being a part of a BIOS code, and the BIOS identifier being provided to a PXE boot extension server during execution of the BIOS code at a startup of the computer.

Similarly, claims 7 – 10 are also allowable for at least the reasons provided above with respect to their counterpart claims 2 – 5.

Claims 11 – 15 have been canceled to accommodate the inclusion of new claims 16 – 20 without creating additional expense.

New independent claim 16 recites a method of loading an operating system image that is preconfigured for a specific hardware and software specification of a computer system in a manufacturing environment wherein multiple types of computer systems are being built and configured. Included in claim 16 are the steps of:

- executing BIOS code during performance of initial boot functions of said computer system, said BIOS code containing a BIOS identifier that corresponds to a desired PXE boot extension;
- sending said BIOS identifier to a PXE boot extension server containing a plurality of different PXE boot extensions for different hardware and software specifications so that the PXE boot extension server can identify and output the desired PXE boot extension based on said BIOS identifier;
- receiving said desired PXE boot extension from said PXE boot extension server; and
- executing said PXE boot extension to load, from a networked computer onto a hard disk drive of said computer

system, an operating system image that is preconfigured for said computer system.

Claim 16, as well as claims 17 – 20 which depend therefrom, are allowable over the combination of AAPA and Lee for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1.

END REMARKS